

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 110540
ORIGIN NEA-10

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R 142322Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 110540

FOR CONSTABLE FROM LANDE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CVIS (GILANI, NANCY HABIBA)

SUBJECT: WAIVER OF PASSPORT REQUIREMENT FOR NANCY GILANI

1. YOU ARE PROBABLY AWARE THAT NANCY GILANI HAS APPLIED IN LAHORE FOR A US IMMIGRANT VISA TO ALLOW HER TO JOIN HER HUSBAND MAJOR GENERAL (RET.) GHULAM MD. GILANI WHO HAS BEEN IN THE U.S. FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS. MRS. GILANI HAS BEEN SEEKING EXIT FROM PAKISTAN FOR SOME TIME BUT HAS BEEN DENIED A PAKISTANI PASSPORT.

2. CONSULATE LAHORE HAS JUST ROUTINELY REQUESTED BY OM THAT THE VISA OFFICE WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A PASSPORT AS IS PERMISSIBLE IN SOME CATEGORIES, E.G. PARENT OF A U.S. CITIZEN. THIS WOULD ALLOW MRS. GILANI TO ENTER THE U.S. PROVIDED SHE COULD FIRST FIND A WAY TO LEAVE PAKISTAN.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 110540

3. BEFORE WE TAKE ANY ACTION ON LAHORE'S RECOMMENDATION WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS. OBVIOUSLY BHUTTO HAS A PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE QUESTION AND WOULD REACT TO ANY ACTION ON OUR PART, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT COULD ONLY BE EFFECTED THROUGH AN ILLEGAL DEPARTURE FROM PAKISTAN. ON THE OTHER HAND, LAHORE'S RECOMMENDATION IS TECHNICALLY SOUND, AND WE SEE NO BASIS ON WHICH TO REJECT IT.

CHRISTOPHER

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